

REMARKS

Claims 1-56 have been cancelled. New claims 57- 76 have been added and remain in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesy of a personal interview conducted with the undersigned attorney on May 16, 2006. The claim amendments made herein are made in accordance with the discussion which took place at the interview.

In the Office Action dated July 27, 2004 the Examiner stated that claims 6-8 and 14-18 are objected to as being dependant upon a rejected base claims, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitation of the base claims and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, applicants have rewritten claims 6-8 and 14-18 in independent form, including all of the limitation of the base claims and any intervening claims, as new claims 57-72. It is respectfully submitted that new claims 57-72 are in condition for allowance for the same reasons as claims 6-8 and 14-18.

In the Office Action dated March 31, 2005 the Examiner stated that claims 21-24 are allowed.

Accordingly, applicants have rewritten claims 21-24 as new claims 73-76. It is respectfully submitted that new claims 73-76 are in condition for allowance for the same reasons as claims 21-24.


In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection

with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no.
606682000100.

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Respectfully submitted,

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